

~~TOP SECRET~~Action  
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FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1755, NOVEMBER 13, 3 PM

DEPARTMENT PASS WHITE HOUSE

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EYES ONLY FOR THE SECRETARY

Authority State Dec 9/25/77  
By JK, NARS, Date 8/11/77

CUBA

NARASIMHAN INFORMED YOST THAT MTG THIS MORNING OF SYG WITH SOVS AND CUBANS TOGETHER WAS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO QUESTION OF VERIFICATION ON-THE-SPOT.

U THANT'S INFORMAL SUGGESTION LAST WEEK OF INSPECTION BY FIVE LA AMBS HAVING BEEN REJECTED, HE HAS NOW PROPOSED AS ALTERNATIVE VERIFICATION (NOT INSPECTION) BY GROUP OF AMBS IN HAVANA NUMBER AND COMPOSITION OF WHICH IS STILL OPEN. U THANT SUGGESTED THAT NUMBER MIGHT BE EITHER FOUR, EIGHT OR TWELVE AND THAT SORT OF COMPOSITION HE HAD IN MIND WAS 2 LA'S (MEXICO, BRAZIL), 2 EUROPEANS (AUSTRIA, SWEDEN), 2 AFRICIANS (UAR, GHANA) AND 2 ASIANS (INDIA, BURMA). LECHUGA'S PERSONAL REACTION HAD BEEN THAT THIS COMPOSITION WOULD BE SATISFACTORY BUT THAT QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE - WHETHER THERE SHOULD BE ANY VERIFICATION IN CUBA WHATSOEVER - REMAINED OF COURSE UNAGREED.

NARASIMHAN ALSO PASSED ON FOL IMPRESSIONS WHICH HE EMPHASIZED WERE ONLY PERSONAL THOUGH SOME WERE BASED ON INFO FROM EASTERN EUROPEAN SOURCES. HE FEELS THAT MIKOYAN HAS HAD ABSOLUTELY NO SUCCESS WITH CASTRO AND IS THOROUGHLY FED UP. HE CONCLUDES THAT, AFTER THIS EXPERIENCE WITH CASTRO, SOVS WILL NOT WISH TO LEAVE EITHER BOMBERS OR ANY SORT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN CUBAN HANDS AND WILL AGREE TO WITHDRAW ALL OF THESE. AS TO INSPECTION, HE DOUBTS THAT CASTRO WILL ACCEPT LATEST PROPOSAL AND BELIEVES THAT ONLY SOME PROPOSAL INVOLVING RECIPROCAL INSPECTION WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO CUBANS.

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-2- 1755, NOVEMBER 13, 3 PM FROM NEW YORK

HE WAS INCLINED TO RECOMMEND THAT, IF SOVS DO WITHDRAW BOMBERS AND GIVE ASSURANCES THEY HAVE WITHDRAWN ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST PERFORMANCE WE COULD EXPECT FROM THEM UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE SOME CONCESSIONS ON OUR SIDE. YOST AGREED THAT, IF SOVS WENT AS FAR AS HE INDICATED, THIS WOULD INDEED BE ENCOURAGING PERFORMANCE ON THEIR PART. HE POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD NOT RELIEVE THEM OF THEIR COMMITMENT, ASSUMED IN EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND KHRUSHCHEV, TO PERMIT UN OBSERVATION AND TO HALT WITH SUITABLE SAFEGUARDS FURTHER INTRODUCTION OFFENSIVE WEAPONS INTO CUBA. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT PERFORMANCE ON CASTRO'S PART ALONG THESE LINES WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE HE COULD EXPECT TO RECEIVE ASSURANCES FROM THE U.S.

NARASIMHAN ALSO REPORTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURE IN EVENTUAL SC MTG, SOVS AND CUBANS URGING THERE BE PROTOCOL SIGNED BY PARTIES CONCERNED, WHILE UN SUGGESTED EITHER MINIMAL RES WITH SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENTS BY PARTIES OR, IF THIS SHOULD NOT PROVE POSSIBLE, SIMPLY AGREED DECLARATIONS BY PARTIES. ACCORDING TO NARASIMHAN, NO ONE PRESSED FOR IMMEDIATE MTG THOUGH SOVS CONTINUE TO URGE "EARLY SOLUTION CUBAN PROBLEM."

THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION OF RED CROSS THIS MORNING. NARASIMHAN SAID PRESENT STATUS IS THAT THERE IS TENTATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN UN AND ICRC WHICH COULD BE IMPLEMENTED PROMPTLY BUT THAT, IN VIEW SOV POSITION THAT RED CROSS INSPECTION NOT REQUIRED AFTER NOV 12, UN AND ICRC ARE TAKING NO FURTHER STEPS AT THIS TIME.

STEVENS ON

TRT

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